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21 April 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT: Materials for U. S. Ideological Program

1. On reading the OCB's "Outline Plan of Operations for the U. S. Ideological Program," I felt you might be interested in glancing over the attached American Thesis.

2. This anthology with commentary was developed by the instructors in OTR's Phase I Course to counteract CIA employees' appalling ignorance of the American answer to Communism. It is used in connection with a class problem in which an educated, skeptical Hindu challenges a young American case officer to prove that American theory and practice are better than Soviet. One of its virtues is that it does not ignore our shortcomings but nevertheless shows our determination to make democracy work.

3. In its present form the document would not be suitable for use overseas in the OCB program, but it might offer useful hints for a compilation that would serve such a purpose. You might want to ask FP for its opinion, then if that is favorable forward the document to USIA or elsewhere for appropriate development. Such a document would be of much more use to an overt than a covert program and could not well be used in both. (If you do forward it, credit to OTR's Basic Training Program would be appreciated.)

4. Two other sources of material might be:

a. The essays on specific aspects of Communism written by students in [] course in World Communism, and in the 1953 seminar conducted by R. M. Carew Hunt at the Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies. Some of the materials used in the essays for Eric's course are too sensitive for circulation outside the Agency, but I feel that the good essays on Communism in Iran or Iceland or elsewhere might be edited for circulation in the areas involved. Carew Hunt, the great English expert on Communism, told me that the SAIS papers were in general first rate, and that he had circulated one of them throughout the Foreign Office as a genuine contribution to understanding of Chinese Communism. All these papers are available inside CIA; the question of making them useful outside is one of manpower. On that, OTR can be of little help.

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b. Carew Hunt's paper on "Communist Jargon," in which he quotes the Communist Party Line at length on one page and presents on the facing page a translation of the Line into hard and unappetizing fact. This could serve as a model for the suggestions in the OCB paper for a free-world refutation of the Short History of the CPSU and of Lenin's Imperialism.


Clandestine Services Training Officer

25X1

Attachment

OTR/HTC/bc (21 Apr 55)

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